

# **You Teach...Marine Ecosystems**

The ocean is one big, united body, but there are several ecosystems that have unique and common characteristics. **Your mission is to:**

**1.) research and teach the class about one such ecosystem**

**2.) create a poster to present to the class**

**\*Posters must address the 5 characteristics listed below. Posters should be creative, neat and help facilitate your group presentation to the class.**

**Characteristics of your assigned ecosystem that you should be covering in presentation and poster:**

- Flora
- Fauna
- Abiotic Factors
- Location
- Typical Food chains

**Questions to keep in mind and answer:**

What flora and fauna exist there?

Who is at the top of the food chain? at the base?

What are the common abiotic factors?

What are the characteristics of the flora and fauna? What specific adaptations allow the species to thrive in this environment?

How do flora and fauna interact with all the abiotic factors?

How are humans affecting the environment? (fishing, recreation, pollution, etc.)

Where do these ecosystems occur on Earth?

**Ecosystems to choose from: (every group must pick a different one)**

Sandy Beaches

Rocky Shore

Estuaries

Mangrove Swamp

Coral Reef

Kelp Forest

Pelagic Environments (including sargassum)

Arctic Water

Salt Marsh